

servicemen with wholesome recreation and entertainment. According to Walter Hoving, one of the original directors of the USO, "this is not only vital to military morale but also from the standpoint of the future of our youth as peacetime citizens."

Seventy-five years later, the USO continues to adapt to meet the needs of our men and women in uniform and their families. From USO centers at or near military installations across the United States and around the world, to their airport centers that offer around-the-clock hospitality for traveling servicemembers, to their trademark tours that bring America's celebrities to entertain our troops, to their support for military kids, wounded warriors and their caregivers, and families of the fallen, the USO has answered the call to serve those who serve our Nation.

The USO remains a private organization, relying on the generosity of individuals, communities, and corporations and 30,000 dedicated volunteers. As General Eisenhower wrote many decades ago, "the USO served also in providing a channel through which more than a million civilian men and women were able to help effectively in the war effort." The same holds true today.

I would like to thank the many men and women of the USO who give so much to bring a bit of home to our servicemembers all over the globe. I congratulate the USO on 75 years of strengthening America's military by keeping servicemembers connected to family, home, and country wherever they go.

#### REMEMBERING ANITA ASHOK DATA

Mrs. GILLIBRAND. Mr. President, today I wish to celebrate the life of an extraordinary woman named Anita Ashok Data. She was a mother, a daughter, a sister, and a dear friend to those who knew her.

Anita was born in Pittsfield, MA, and was raised in Flanders, NJ. She was a graduate of Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health and School of International and Public Affairs, where she attained a master's in public health and a master's in public administration. At the time of her death, Anita was a resident of Takoma Park, MD.

Anita dedicated her life to helping others. She was an international public health expert and development worker who traveled the world, working tirelessly in pursuit of one powerful goal: to improve the lives of those less fortunate.

Anita began her career in the Peace Corps, where she volunteered for a 2-year tour in Senegal, a country in a part of the world that she had come to love so much.

After graduating from Columbia University, Anita moved to the Washington, DC, area where she continued her career as an international development worker.

In addition to her day job, Anita helped found the not-for-profit Tulalens, an organization dedicated to connecting low-income women in underserved communities to quality health services.

But out of all of her many accomplishments, Anita was most proud of her son, Rohan. Rohan was the light of her life. Anita loved working to make the world a better place for him.

Anita's inspiring life was cut short on November 20, 2015, in a senseless act of violent terrorism in Bamako, Mali.

But Anita and her life—and the lives of the thousands of people she touched—are far bigger than the tragic event that occurred on that day.

Anita's love, spirit, and dedication to making the world a better place will have a lasting effect. The world is a better place because of Anita and the work that she did.

I extend my deepest, heartfelt sympathies to Anita's family and friends—especially to her son, Rohan.

#### TRIBUTE TO EDWARD JOHNSON

Mr. HOEVEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the following letter be printed in the RECORD in recognition of the service of Edward Johnson, chief financial officer of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, upon his retirement from the Federal Government.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

FEMA,

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY,  
Washington, DC, December 15, 2015.

EDWARD JOHNSON,  
Chief Financial Officer, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. JOHNSON: It is with a great sense of gratitude that I write this letter in recognition of your 38 years of service to our nation. On the cusp of your retirement, I want to acknowledge your leadership, management, and business acumen, which directly and significantly contributed to the Department of Homeland Security's financial management success.

You have been a tireless leader in the Department's senior leadership cadre, providing sage advice on a wide range of issues and challenging convention as a valued member of the DHS Chief Financial Officer Council. I am particularly thankful for your most recent efforts at the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), in building a Planning Programming Budgeting and Execution structure, which championed a disciplined resource management paradigm as a foundational element of the Agency's strategic plan. As part of FEMA's leadership team, you revamped the Agency's Program and Budget Review system, instituting Quarterly Resource Reviews and chartering a senior leadership council responsible for making all resource management recommendations for the Agency. Your steadfast work yielded tangible, positive results in the development of FEMA's yearly budget submission and in ensuring the most effective and efficient use of scarce resources.

Thanks to your leadership, FEMA also made significant strides in the financial system modernization arena. FEMA is now in

the forefront amongst federal agencies as we rapidly advance the replacement of unsustainable legacy financial systems that bring together diverse equities in an effort to save taxpayer dollars while making government more streamlined and efficient. Simply put, you were the right leader to pull this complex set of financial system needs together and move them into the future. As a result of these and other accomplishments, you were recognized as one of the Federal 100 by FCW, a public sector trade publication.

Prior to joining our team at FEMA, you served DHS in a number of capacities where you were continuously recognized as one of the top civil servants. From your service as Director of the Burlington Finance Center for the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement to your tenure at the U.S. Citizens and Immigration Services, you worked tirelessly to advance the Department's mission in service to the American people.

On behalf of FEMA's leadership team, our entire workforce and a grateful nation, I want to wish you and your wife Donna good luck and good health as you enter this new chapter in your lives. I will forever remain grateful for your wise counsel and tireless service.

Sincerely,

W. CRAIG FUGATE,  
Administrator.

#### RECOGNIZING REAL SERVICES

Mr. DONNELLY. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the 50th anniversary of REAL Services, an organization that works to support independence and higher quality of life for the elderly, disabled, and low-income Hoosiers in northern Indiana.

In 1966, Lester J. Fox founded REAL Services to create a service network for seniors in St. Joseph County. With the help of a Federal grant from the U.S. Administration on Aging, REAL Services developed programs to address the housing, health, employment, and legal needs of those aging in St. Joseph County.

REAL Services expanded its reach in 1981 to include assistance programs for poverty-stricken Hoosiers. In 2013, REAL Services merged with the Alzheimer's and Dementia Services of Northern Indiana. Today REAL Services assists more than 30,000 elderly, disabled, and destitute Hoosiers annually in 12 northern Indiana counties through more than 20 programs. This would not be possible without those who volunteer their time to further REAL Services' reach and mission. On average, REAL Services has 2,000 volunteers each year.

The effectiveness of REAL Services' commitment to preserving the self-sufficiency and life quality of elderly, disabled, and low-income Hoosiers has been highly praised over the years. In May 1974, then-Governor of Indiana, Otis R. Bowen, designated REAL Services as the Area Agency on Aging for five counties in northern Indiana. A little over a decade later, then-Governor Robert D. Orr designated the organization the Community Action Agency in northern Indiana.

In 2005, REAL Services was designated by the Federal Government as